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Jan. 6, 2014

CORRECTION: Neither defendant entered a plea today. The arraignment was continued to Jan. 16 in Dept. J in Los Angeles County Superior Court, Norwalk Branch.

Mother, Father Arraigned in Infant's Death

The parents of a four-month-old baby girl pleaded not guilty today to felony charges related to the death of their daughter on New Year's Eve, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Ashley Debra Jones, 23 (dob 03/07/1990), and Johnathan Lucero, 23 (dob 07/17/1990), have each been charged with one count of murder and one count of child abuse in case VA133291.

Deputy District Attorney LaChandra Wilkerson, who is assigned to the case, said that the infant's body showed signs of abuse and it was later determined the baby died from blunt force trauma.

The charging document identifies the infant as Savanah L.

Prosecutors have recommended \$2 million bail for each defendant. If convicted as charged, Jones and Lucero face a maximum sentence of life in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Downey Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.